



March 23, 1981

PRESS RELEASE

CONCORDIA STINGERS COMPLETE OUTSTANDING SEASON

The Concordia University Athletic program has completed its finest season with seven league championships to its credit. In addition, four teams represented the University in the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union national championships marking another outstanding year for Dr. Enos' department.

In reviewing the past year, Dr. Enos had high praise for the Stinger squads. "We have always tried to maintain a standard of excellence, both in our intercollegiate and intramural programs," Enos stated. "While I think we have done a good job in our pursuit of excellence, I cannot recall any year where Loyola, Sir George or Concordia did so well in so many different sports. I think it is a tribute to the coaches and players whose many hours of practice and sacrifice paid off in the league and national playoffs."

The Stingers got things underway early in the 1980-81 academic year as the varsity golf team, under the tutelage of George Short, captured their second consecutive Quebec University Athletic Association title. Concordia's Andy Fisher shot a two-round 149 at the Milby Golf Club to capture his second consecutive individual title.

The men's soccer team, perennial Quebec powerhouse and two-time C.I.A.U. National champions, captured the Coup de Quebec, symbolic of Quebec University supremacy. However, Harry Hus' booters were derailed in the Q.U.A.A. playoffs, losing the finals to the second-place McGill Redmen, marking the first time ever that a Loyola/Concordia soccer team did not advance to the National playdowns.

The women's field hockey squad captured their first crown as they won the Quebec Intercollegiate Field Hockey Championship with a 1-0 victory over John Abbott College in the league's title match. The rapidly improving squad, coached by national team member Cathy Haig, sported a league record of 5-1-1 and an overall mark of 7-5-2.

The men's and women's hockey squad breezed through league competition enroute to championships in the Q.U.A.A. and the Quebec Intercollegiate Women's Hockey League, respectively. Paul Arsenault's icemen skated to their sixth consecutive league title with an impressive 22-1-1 regular season mark and four straight playoff victories over the University of Ottawa and the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières. The Stingers were ranked in the top five in the C.I.A.U. National poll throughout the season and ended fifth in the National Championship Tournament.

The '80-'81 season also marked a personal milestone for coach Arsenault who recorded his 400th win as a university coach. The veteran mentor has accumulated an outstanding 410-167-40 lifetime record with 13 league titles while coaching at Sir George, Loyola and Concordia.

Coach Bill Doherty's female skaters had little trouble in the league finishing with a perfect 12-0 mark and defeating John Abbott College two games to none in the playoffs. In addition, the Stingers captured the U.N.B. Invitational Tournament championship.

The men's and women's basketball teams also experienced great success as they both advanced to the C.I.A.U. Nationals. The male Stingers, ranked seventh by the C.I.A.U. National poll, finished third in the Nationals, upsetting second-ranked Brandon University Bobcats and the fourth-ranked St. Francis Xavier X-men. Only a 75-63 loss to the National Championship Victoria Vikings in the semi-final blemished Concordia's appearance. The third place represents the highest by a Quebec University since the eight-team format was established in 1974. Doug Daigneault's cagers finished the season in excellent form, winning fifteen of their final sixteen games.

The women hoopsters finished second in the Q.U.A.A. behind the powerful Bishop's Lady Gaiters but were awarded an at-large berth to the C.I.A.U. Nationals because of their fine overall record (25-12). After losing in the opening round to Winnipeg (56-51) the Stingers rebounded with wins over Guelph and Laurentian to capture the consolation trophy. Joann Bourque was the mainstay of the young squad and was named to the All-Canadian team. With seven of nine players returning, coach Hickey has a solid nucleus on which to build for 1981-82.

To cap things off the wrestling team sent several wrestlers to the C.I.A.U. championships and two members, John Hartung and Rasoul Tork received bronze medals.

The women's Alpine Ski team rounded off the championship teams as they captured the Q.U.A.A. championship, under the guidance of coach Steve Kushernyk.

One team that did not win a championship during the 1980-81 season, but has showed indications of great things to come, is Skip Rochette's revitalized football squad. Rochette has gradually built up the program to the point where the Stingers should seriously challenge for league and national honours with over 40 players returning from last year's team.